

1 629. However, due to a change in pagination, the description of the function of ribs 629
2 appears in lines 3-5 of marked-up page 58 of the Amendments to Specification, which page
3 is enclosed. Applicant apologizes for any confusion this may have caused.

4 Regarding the examiner's objection to the misspelling of abutment in Claim 60, that
5 misspelling has been corrected.

6 Regarding the examiner's rejection of Claims 1-27 under 35 U.S.C. §112, to the
7 disclosure as not being enabling with respect to internal flanges, please note that internal
8 flanges 60F, 60B, 60I, and 60O were added to drawing figure 1 in the amendment filed May
9 31, 2006. The specification was amended to add reference to the flanges at page 28, line 12,
10 but that amended specification page was inadvertently omitted from the previous office action.
11 That page is included in the present response, and the applicant's attorney apologizes for any
12 confusion this may have caused.

13 It is noted with appreciation that the examiner has allowed Claims 28, 32-41, and
14 48-51. Also noted with appreciation is the examiner's indication that Claims 46-47 and 64-69
15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base
16 claim and any intervening claims. Independent Claim 42 has been amended to incorporate
17 all of the limitations of Claim 46 and intervening Claims 43 and 45. Claim 44, which recites
18 a semi-elliptical shape which is not believed to be a characteristic that the examiner
19 considered to be essential to allowance of Claim 46 over the prior art of record, has been
20 amended to depend from currently amended Claim 42. Thus, amended independent Claim
21 42 and Claims 44 and 47, which depend therefrom, should now be in order for allowance.

22 New independent Claim 70 has been presented which incorporates all of the
23 limitations of Claim 64, indicated by the examiner as being allowable, and all of the limitations
24 of independent Claim 42, from which Claim 64 depended, as well as all of the limitations of
25 intervening Claims 43, 60, 61, 62 and 63. Thus, new independent Claim 70 should now be
26 in order for allowance.

1 New independent Claim 71 has been presented which incorporates all of the
2 limitations of Claim 65, indicated by the examiner as being allowable, and all of the
3 limitations of Claim 42 from which allowable Claim 65 depended, as well as all of the
4 limitations of intervening Claims 43, 60, 61, 62 and 63. Thus, new Claim 71 should be in
5 order for allowance, as should Claims 66-79, which have been amended to depend from new
6 independent Claim 71.

7 In view of the amendments and remarks above, it is submitted that Claims 28, 32-
8 41, 42, 44, 47-51, 66-69, 70, and 71 are now all in order for allowance and formal notice of
9 allowance of those claims and prompt advancement of this application to issuance are
10 earnestly solicited. If there is any outstanding matters in the present application that require
11 resolution before allowance, it is respectfully requested that the examiner contact applicant's
12 attorney by telephone so that any such matter may be promptly and expeditiously resolved.
13
14
15

16 Respectfully submitted,

17 *William L. Chapin*

18 William L. Chapin, Reg. #27,317
19 16791 Sea Witch Lane
20 Huntington Beach, California 92649
Telephone: (714) 625-3570
Enclosure
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

1 of ring 41 adjacent to lower well 63 are optionally provided with ribs and grooves 49B, 50B
2 which may be extensions of ribs and grooves 49, 50.

3 Referring now to Figures 1, 2, and 3, it may be seen that tray 31 is provided with
4 front and back or rear abutment flanges 55F, 55B, which protrude outwardly from front and rear
5 walls 35, 36, respectively, of tray 31. As shown in the figures, each abutment flange 55F, 55B
6 has the shape of a horizontally disposed, thin, longitudinally elongated rectangular rib or web
7 which has an outer vertical wall surface 56 that is spaced outwards from an outer front or rear
8 wall of tray 31, and flat and parallel, horizontally disposed, upper and lower surfaces 57, 58,
9 respectively. The function of front and rear abutment flanges 55F, 55B are described below.

10 Referring now to Figures ~~1 and 3~~, it may be seen that base wall 42 of upper well
11 39 in molding tray 31 has a flat upper surface 59, and includes an outer rectangular ring-
12 shaped peripheral portion 60 formed of flanges ^{60F, 60B, 60I, 60O, 60S} which protrude perpendicularly inwards from
13 the inner wall surfaces of the front, rear, inner and outer end walls of the tray. Base wall 42
14 also includes a concentrically located, longitudinally elongated rectangularly-shaped center
15 knock-out or break-away panel 61. Base wall 42 has a thickness of less than the height of tray
16 31, e.g., about 1/16 inch for a tray height of about 5/8 inch, and upper surface 59 of base wall
17 42 is located about 9/32 inch below upper peripheral edge wall 33 of the tray. Thus arranged,
18 base wall 42 forms within upper and lower portions of tray 31 relatively deep, e.g., about 9/32
19 inch, symmetrically shaped upper and lower wells 39 and 63, respectively, which protrude
20 inwardly from upper peripheral face 59 and lower peripheral face 64 of the tray, respectively.

21
22 Referring still to Figures 1 and 3, it may be seen that center break-away panel 61
23 of tray base wall 42 is connected to outer rectangular ring-shaped portion 60 of the base wall
24 by a plurality of readily breakable, or frangible members 65. Thus, as shown in Figure 3, outer
25 vertical wall surface 66 of base wall break-away center panel 61 is joined to an inner vertical
26 wall surface 67 of ring-shaped portion 60 of the base wall by a plurality of thin, breakable pins
27 65, e.g., a pair of front and rear pins and a pair of left and right pins. In a preferred
28 embodiment, a tray 31 is fabricated as a unitary molded plastic part, with outer surface 66 of